“Equal Opportunity” – Jim Wong-Chu

in early Canada

when railways were highways

each stop brought new opportunities

there was a rule

the chinese could only ride

the last two cards

of trains

that is

until a train derailed

killing all those

in front

(the chinese erected an altar and thanked buddha)

a new rule was made

the chinese must ride

the front two cars

of the trains

that is

until another accident

claimed everyone

in the back

(the chinese erected an altar and thanked buddha)

after much debate

common sense prevailed

the chinese are allowed

to sit anywhere

on any train

“Two Prisoners” – Raymond Souster

Looking tough, looking disheveled,

looking bewildered,

looking at nothing at all.

Two young boys

handcuffed to detectives,

walking stiffly from a courtroom

on the second floor of City Hall.

“Those punks are going back

to the Don where they belong…”

a court attendant.

Some of us should be made

to go along with them.